

App. Serial No. 10/789,792
Atty. Docket No. R029 1370

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.-40. Canceled.

41. (New) A carton and a plurality of generally cylindrical containers therein, the containers having at least one common diameter, and being arranged in at least a bottom row and a row immediately above the bottom row, the carton comprising:

a bottom panel;

a top panel;

a first side panel;

a second side panel;

a first end comprising at least one end flap;

a second end; and

a plurality of tear lines defining a dispenser flap, wherein the plurality of tear lines comprises:

a bottom tear line that extends at least partially across the first end and spaced from the bottom panel;

a first side tear line defining a first end retainer in the first end and extending diagonally through the first side panel adjacent to the top panel;

a second side tear line defining a second end retainer in the first end and extending diagonally through the second side panel adjacent to the top panel; and

a top tear line disposed in the top panel between the first and second side tear lines, wherein

when the dispenser flap is removed it leaves a dispenser opening, the bottom tear line being spaced a distance from the bottom panel that is at least sufficient to restrain the containers in the bottom row from rolling out of the carton, and

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the first and second end retainers extend into the first end at least a sufficient distance from the side panels to prevent the containers in the row immediately above the bottom row from rolling out of the carton.

42. (New) The carton of claim 41, wherein the first side tear line includes a first curved portion that in part defines the first end retainer.

43. (New) The carton of claim 42, wherein the second side tear line includes a second curved portion that in part defines the second end retainer.

44. (New) The carton of claim 43, wherein:
the first side tear line includes a first vertical portion that extends from the bottom tear line to the first curved portion; and
the second side tear line includes a second vertical portion that extends from the bottom tear line to the second curved portion.

45. (New) The carton of claim 42, wherein the bottom tear line is located at a distance from the bottom panel that is between one-third and two-thirds of the diameter.

46. (New) The carton of claim 42, wherein the at least one end flap comprises four flaps.

47. (New) The carton of claim 42, further comprising a dispenser opening flap in the top panel that is foldably connected to the dispenser flap.

48. (New) The carton of claim 41, wherein at least a portion of the top tear line is spaced from a front edge of the top panel a distance that is less than the diameter.

49. (New) The carton of claim 48, wherein the first side tear line includes a first diagonal portion that extends diagonally through the first end.

50. (New) The carton of claim 49, wherein the second side tear line includes a second diagonal portion that extends diagonally through the first end.

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51. (New) The carton of claim 50, wherein:
the first side tear line includes a first vertical portion that extends from the bottom tear line to the first diagonal portion; and
the second side tear line includes a second vertical portion that extends from the bottom tear line to the second diagonal portion.

52. (New) The carton of claim 48, wherein the bottom tear line is located at a distance from the bottom panel that is between one-third and two-thirds of the diameter.

53. (New) The carton of claim 48, wherein the top tear line is spaced from the front edge of the top panel a distance that is approximately 50% of the diameter plus approximately three millimeters.

54. (New) The carton of claim 48, wherein the top tear line is spaced from the front edge of the top panel a distance that is between approximately 75 and 85% of the diameter.

55. (New) The carton of claim 48, wherein the at least one end flap comprises four flaps.

56. (New) The carton of claim 48, further comprising a dispenser opening flap in the top panel that is foldably connected to the dispenser flap.

57. (New) The carton of claim 41, wherein the bottom tear line is located at a distance from the bottom panel that is between one-third and two-thirds of the diameter.

58. (New) The carton of claim 41, wherein the at least one end flap comprises four flaps.

59. (New) The carton of claim 41, wherein the at least one end flap comprises:
a bottom end flap foldably attached to the bottom panel;
a top end flap foldably attached to the top panel;
a first side end flap foldably attached to the first side panel; and

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a second side end flap foldably attached to the second side panel.

60. (New) The carton of claim 59, wherein the bottom end flap has an end, with the bottom tear line being located in the side end flaps adjacent to the end of the bottom end flap.

61. (New) The carton of claim 41, wherein the plurality of containers comprises twelve containers arranged in three rows with four containers in each row.

62. (New) The carton of claim 41, further comprising a carrying handle.

63. (New) The carton of claim 41, wherein the carton is constructed from paperboard.

64. (New) A carton and a plurality of generally cylindrical containers therein, the containers having at least one common diameter, and being arranged in at least a bottom row and a row immediately above the bottom row, the carton comprising:

a bottom panel;

a top panel;

a first side panel;

a second side panel;

a first end comprising at least one end flap;

a second end; and

a plurality of lines defining a dispenser flap, wherein the plurality of lines comprises:

a bottom fold line that extends at least partially across the first end generally parallel to the bottom panel;

a first side tear line defining a first end retainer in the first end and extending through the first side panel adjacent to the top panel;

a second side tear line defining a second end retainer in the first end and extending through the second side panel adjacent to the top panel; and

a top tear line disposed in the top panel between the first and second side tear lines, wherein

when the tear lines are torn the dispenser flap leaves a dispenser opening and the dispenser flap remains attached at the bottom fold line, the dispenser flap forming a basket for catching containers exiting the carton,

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the bottom tear line is spaced a distance from the bottom panel that is at least sufficient to restrain the containers in the bottom row from rolling out of the carton, and

the first and second end retainers extend into the first end at least a sufficient distance from the side panels to prevent the containers in the row immediately above the bottom row from rolling out of the carton.

65. (New) The carton of claim 64, wherein:
the first side tear line includes a first curved portion that in part defines the first end retainer; and
the second side tear line includes a second curved portion that in part defines the second end retainer.

66. (New) The carton of claim 65, wherein the bottom tear line is located at a distance from the bottom panel that is between one-third and two-thirds of the diameter.

67. (New) The carton of claim 65, wherein the first end of the carton comprises four flaps.

68. (New) The carton of claim 64, wherein at least a portion of the top tear line is spaced from a front edge of the top panel a distance that is less than the diameter.

69. (New) The carton of claim 68, wherein:
the first side tear line includes a first diagonal portion that extends diagonally through the first end; and
the second side tear line includes a second diagonal portion that extends diagonally through the first end.

70. (New) The carton of claim 68, wherein the bottom tear line is located at a distance from the bottom panel that is between one-third and two-thirds of the diameter.

71. (New) The carton of claim 68, wherein the distance between the portion of the top tear line and the front edge of the top panel is between 75 and 85% of the diameter.

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72. (New) The carton of claim 64, wherein:
the first side tear line extends diagonally through the first side panel and meets the top tear line; and
the second side tear line extends diagonally through the second side panel and meets the top tear line.

73. (New) The carton of claim 64, wherein the bottom tear line is located at a distance from the bottom panel that is between one-third and two-thirds of the diameter.

74. (New) The carton of claim 64, wherein the at least one end flap comprises:
a bottom end flap foldably attached to the bottom panel;
a top end flap foldably attached to the top panel;
a first side end flap foldably attached to the first side panel; and
a second side end flap foldably attached to the second side panel.

75. (New) A carton and a plurality of containers therein, the containers having at least one common diameter, and being arranged in at least a bottom row and a row immediately above the bottom row, the carton comprising:

- a bottom panel;
- a top panel;
- a first side panel;
- a second side panel;
- a first end comprising a bottom end flap foldably attached to the bottom panel, a top end flap foldably attached to the top panel, a first side end flap foldably attached to the first side panel, and a second side end flap foldably attached to the second side panel;
- a second end; and
- a plurality of tear lines defining a dispenser flap, wherein the plurality of tear lines comprises:

- a bottom tear line that extends at least partially across the first end generally parallel to the bottom panel, wherein the bottom tear line is spaced from and adjacent to an upper edge of the bottom end flap;

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a first side tear line defining a first end retainer in the first end and extending through the first side panel adjacent to the top panel;

a second side tear line defining a second end retainer in the first end and extending through the second side panel adjacent to the top panel; and

a top tear line disposed in the top panel between the first and second side tear lines, wherein

when the dispenser flap is removed it leaves a dispenser opening, the bottom tear line being spaced a distance from the bottom panel that is at least sufficient to restrain the containers in the bottom row from rolling out, and

the first and second end retainers extend into the first end at least a sufficient distance from the side panels to prevent the containers in the row immediately above the bottom row from rolling out.

76. (New) The carton of claim 75, wherein:
the first side tear line includes a first curved portion that in part defines the first end retainer;
the first side tear line extends diagonally through the first side panel; and
the second side tear line includes a second curved portion that in part defines the second end retainer.

77. (New) The carton of claim 76, wherein the bottom tear line is located at a distance from the bottom panel that is between one-third and two-thirds of the diameter.

78. (New) The carton of claim 75, wherein at least a portion of the top tear line is spaced from a front edge of the top panel a distance that is less than the diameter.

79. (New) The carton of claim 78, wherein:
the first side tear line includes a first diagonal portion that extends diagonally through the first end;
the first side tear line extends diagonally through the first side panel; and
the second side tear line includes a second diagonal portion that extends diagonally through the first end.

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80. (New) The carton of claim 78, wherein the distance between the portion of the top tear line and the front edge of the top panel is between 75 and 85% of the diameter.

81. (New) The carton of claim 75, wherein the bottom tear line is located at a distance from the bottom panel that is between one-third and two-thirds of the diameter.